

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 250967

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

OMB-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-10 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

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DRAFTED BY EUR/P:WGEHRON:CF
APPROVED BY EUR/SE:WLEAGLETON
S/PRS - MISS POULAIN
S/S- MR. WOODS
S:LPBREMER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 250967

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, GR, US
SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS

FOLLOWING ARE REMARKS TO THE MEDIA AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE
MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY KISSINGER AND ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS
ON NOVEMBER 13 IN THE DEPARTMENT:

QUESTION: CAN YOU TELL US WHETHER YOU SEE ANY EVIDENCE
OF ANY PROGRESS IN RESOLVING THE CYPRUS DISPUTE?

MAKARIOS: I CANNOT SAY THAT THERE IS ANY PROGRESS BUT THERE
ARE MANY POSSIBILITIES FOR PROGRESS IN THE NEAR FUTURE,
AS I HOPE.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 250967

QUESTION: DO YOU PLAN TO GO BACK TO CYPRUS IN THE NEAR FUTURE, SIR?

MAKARIOS: THIS IS MY INTENTION, YES.

AKARIOS: THIS IS MY INTENTION, YES.

QUESTION: DO YOU KNOW WHEN?

MAKARIOS: IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, PERHAPS.

QUESTION: CAN YOU TELL US WHETHER YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SECRETARY WERE SATISFACTORY?

MAKARIOS: IT'S VERY OBVIOUS, WHAT WAS THE SUBJECT OF OUR DISCUSSION. WE REVIEWED THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS AND WE EXCHANGED USEFUL VIEWS AS TO THE HANDLING OF THE PROBLEM. AND I SAY THAT I AM SATISFIED WITH MY MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

QUESTION: THERE WERE SOME REPORTS PUBLISHED THIS MORNING THAT SOME 5,000 TURKISH TROOPS HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN FROM CYPRUS IN ROTATION. DOES THAT ACCORD WITH YOUR INFORMATION?

MAKARIOS: THIS DOES NOT MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE TO THE GREEK-CYPRIOTS. PERSONALLY, I WOULD SAY THAT SINCE THE TURKISH TROOPS KEEP THE WHOLE AREA - 40 PERCENT - I PREFER THEM TO STAY -- I PREFER MORE TROOPS TO STAY THERE BECAUSE THIS WOULD BE MORE EXPENSIVE TO THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, DO YOU KNOW WHETHER THAT REPORT IS TRUE (ABOUT THE 5,000 TROOPS BEING WITHDRAWN)?

THE SECRETARY: WE HAVE HAD NO SUCH REPORTS, OFFICIALLY. I'M SORRY THAT I DIDN'T HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO GO TO ANKARA AND EXPLORE THE SITUATION THERE AND WE HOPE WITH THE FORMATION OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WE CAN RESUME THE CONVERSATIONS WHICH WE HAD INITIATED.

QUESTION: IF YOU GO BACK TO CYPRUS, SIR, WOULD YOU TAKE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 250967

PART IN A NEW GOVERNMENT, OR WOULD THIS JUST BE A PRIVATE VISIT AT THIS STAGE?

MAKARIOS: WHEN YOU SAY, RESUME THE GOVERNMENT --

QUESTION: NO, BUT WOULD YOU RESUME YOUR ROLE IN THE GOVERNMENT?

MAKARIOS: WELL, I THINK THAT I WOULD GO BACK AS PRESIDENT.

QUESTION: GO BACK AS PRESIDENT?

MAKARIOS: I AM PRESIDENT.

QUESTION: DO YOU EXPECT ANY DIFFICULTY IN TAKING OVER THE
PRESIDENCY WHEN YOU RETURN?

MAKARIOS: NO, I DON'T SEE ANY DIFFICULTY.

QUESTION: THANK YOU.

QUESTION: IS THAT WITHDRAWAL OF ANY REAL SIGNIFICANCE?

THE SECRETARY: I GENUINELY DON'T KNOW WHETHER THERE IS A
WITHDRAWAL.

QUESTION: IF THERE WAS, WOULD IT HAVE ANY SIGNIFICANCE?

THE SECRETARY: IT WOULD HAVE, DEPENDING ON THE CONTEXT. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE250967
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WGEHRON:CF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740327-1082
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741143/aaaabkar.tel
Line Count: 136
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 NOV 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 NOV 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <21-Nov-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS FOLLOWING ARE REMARKS TO THE MEDIA AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE
TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, GR, US, (MAKARIOS, ARCHBISHOP)
To: NICOSIA ATHENS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005